

Guildford Rural District.

1904.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

R. W. C. PIERCE, M.D., B Sc., (Lond.)

AND

The Inspector of Nuisances,

AMOS D. SHRIVES, Assoc. San. Inst.

Guildford Rural District.

CHIEF STATISTICS FOR 1904.

Estimated Population middle of 1904—22,310.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|
| <i>Birth Rate</i> (508 births) ... | ... | ... | ... | 22·8 per 1000 popn. |
| Average for previous 9 years | ... | ... | ... | 24·3 „ „ |
| Rate for Rural England and Wales, 1904 | ... | ... | ... | 26·8 „ „ |

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| <i>Death Rate</i> (261 deaths—46 more than in 1903) | ... | ... | ... | 11·7 „ „ |
| Average for previous 9 years | ... | ... | ... | 12·8 „ „ |
| Rate for Rural England and Wales, 1904 | ... | ... | ... | 15·3 „ „ |

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| <i>Zymotic Death Rate, i.e.,</i> death rate from the 7 principal | | | | |
| Zymotic diseases | ... | ... | ... | ·5 „ „ |
| as against | ... | ... | ... | 1·28 „ „ |
| for Rural England and Wales | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----------------------|
| <i>Infantile Mortality i.e.,</i> deaths of Infants under 1 year | ... | ... | ... | 74·0 per 1000 births |
| as against | ... | ... | ... | 125·0 „ „ |
| for Rural England and Wales | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----|
| <i>Number of Infectious Diseases notified</i> | ... | ... | ... | 88 |
| as against 103 the previous year | | | | |

There was not a single death from these diseases.

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| <i>Phthisis</i> , number of deaths | ... | ... | ... | 24 |
| as against | ... | ... | ... | 13 for 1903 |

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| <i>Diseases of the Respiratory Organs</i> | ... | ... | ... | 33 |
| as against | ... | ... | ... | 21 for 1903 |

Guildford Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR 1904.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS ONSLOW, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for 1904. In this Report I have followed the lines laid down by the Local Government Board in a memorandum which has been sent to all Medical Officers of Health. After enumerating the subjects with which the Report should deal, the memorandum states: "With regard to such points it should be remembered that these reports are for the information of the Board and of the County Council as well as of the Council of the District, and that a statement of the local circumstances and a history of local sanitary questions, which may seem superfluous for the latter, may often be needed by the former bodies."

A considerably larger number of deaths occurred in the district than in the previous year, in spite of the reduction in the area from November, although the number is still below the average. The excessive rainfall of 1903 had probably much to do with the low rate for that year. There is also a corresponding rise in the rate for England and Wales for 1904.

| | Death rate per 1,000 population. | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1900. | 1901. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. |
| England and Wales..... | 18·3 | 16·9 | 16·3 | 15·4 | 16·2 |
| Rural England and Wales.... | 17·5 | 15·7 | 15·3 | 14·8 | 15·3 |

The absence of any deaths from the notifiable infectious diseases when contrasted with the 33 deaths from Tubercular disease—which are to a great extent, if not entirely, preventable—cannot fail to suggest that some of the methods adopted in regard to the ordinary infectious diseases might be applied to this terrible disease. The improvement of the sanitation of the dwelling and its surroundings has been proved to result in the lessening of the mortality from Phthisis, and the occurrence of this number of deaths in a rural district is an indication that much yet remains to be done in those respects.

The often quoted instances of longevity and the low death rate obtaining in our villages do not prove that sanitary measures are unnecessary in rural areas. Our rural population is healthier than that of large towns chiefly because there is more breathing space. The injurious effect of unhealthy dwellings, overcrowding, bad water supply, and other nuisances, while easily measurable in large towns, is to a great extent neutralised in the country by the more outdoor life the people lead. As, however, these defects are in themselves necessarily harmful, every effort should be made to remove them and so enable our population to become still longer-lived. Similarly the apparent healthiness of tent and van dwellers has been adduced as sufficient reason for leaving them entirely to their own devices, whereas it is their outdoor life which helps to make them more or less proof against insanitary conditions. The adoption of some of the simple rules of hygiene would render them still more proof.

There have been no epidemic of infectious disease, with the

exception of Measles. The bulk of the notifiable diseases was contributed by the occurrence of several mild cases of Diphtheria at Ockham and Ripley, and cases of Scarlet Fever at Send and Ripley, which followed the outbreak that occurred towards the end of the previous year. With very few exceptions the cases of notified disease were of a mild character, as is shewn by the entire absence of a fatal issue.

There is good reason to believe that the outbreak at Ripley was checked at the very commencement by the detection and removal of the earliest mild cases, and that this was accomplished by means of the examination of "swabs" from the throats of suspected cases. It is a common experience that epidemics of Diphtheria are frequently preceded by the prevalence of "sore throats," and many of these can only be proved to be Diphtheritic in nature by bacterial examination.

Good progress was made with the improvement of the water supply of the district, by the extension of the Companies' water mains and the connection of many houses thereto. Numerous samples were also analysed from shallow wells, and, when found unsatisfactory, improvements to the wells were carried out or a supply obtained from the mains. The average results of analyses made in the Council's Laboratory of the water supplied by the various Companies are included in the section dealing with water supply. At the present time I can only report that the variations in quality that occur in the several supplies in different parts and at different times indicate the necessity of periodical examinations being made.

In matters of sewerage, the Ripley scheme was completed in a most satisfactory manner at the end of the year, and steps were taken to remedy the defects found in the new sewer at Gomshall. The sewerage of Pirbright has also been under consideration, and application made for a loan to carry out a scheme. The year has witnessed the institution of a voluntary system of scavenging at Merrow, something on the lines of that obtaining in Albury. The nuisances arising from defective cesspools in George Street, Farncombe, are also now in a fair way of being remedied by the construction of a sewer to be connected with those of the Godalming Corporation.

I. Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Rural District, up to Nov. 9th, comprised 18 parishes, grouped into five Registration sub-districts. These, together with the acreage, number of inhabited houses, and population, at the Census of 1901, were as follows :—

| Registration Sub-Districts. | Parishes. | Acreage. | Number of Inhabited Houses at Census 1901 | Population at Census 1901 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------|---|---------------------------|
| ALBURY | Albury | 4419 | 248 | 1224 |
| | Shere | 6412 | 457 | 2184 |
| | East Clandon | 1448 | 60 | 271 |
| | West Clandon | 1006 | 78 | 378 |
| | East Horsley | 1832 | 63 | 301 |
| | West Horsley | 2676 | 141 | 671 |
| GUILDFORD | Stoke-next-Guildford | 2075 | 861 | †4462 |
| | Artington | 2694 | 188 | 896 |
| | Merrow | 1629 | 280 | 1320 |
| GODALMING | Godalming Rural | 6129 | 322 | 1787 |
| | Puttenham | 1950 | 97 | 457 |
| | Compton | 1998 | 129 | 570 |
| | Wanborough | 1879 | 56 | 266 |
| RIPLEY | Send and Ripley | 5182 | 459 | 2301 |
| | Ockham | 2907 | 122 | 564 |
| | Wisley | 1090 | 33 | 157 |
| WOKING | Pirbright | 4711 | 261 | 1540 |
| | Worplesdon | 5288 | 410 | 1843 |
| | Total | 55325 | 4265 | 21192 |

† Inclusive of Stoughton Barracks (341 in 1891 and 266 in 1901).

The greater part of the parish of Stoke-next-Guildford and the populous part of the parish of Artington were absorbed into the Borough of Guildford in November. The remaining part of Stoke-next-Guildford, by the terms of the Extension Order, being added to the parish of Worplesdon. The areas, population and houses taken into the Borough were as follows :—

| | Acreage. | Houses. | Population. |
|----------------------------|----------|---------|-------------|
| Stoke-next-Guildford | 1685 | 919 | 4524 |
| Artington | 309 | 95 | 479 |
| Totals | 1994 | 1014 | 5003 |

The total acreage of the District, therefore, is now 53,331 acres ;

the acreage of Artington being reduced to 2,385 acres, and that of Worplesdon being increased to 5,578 acres by the addition of that part of the parish of Stoke-next-Guildford which was not absorbed into the Borough of Guildford.

The small portion of the parish of Stoke-near-Guildford which has been added to Worplesdon consists of agricultural land and 35 houses chiefly on the Worplesdon Road, which were not included in the Stoughton drainage scheme owing to the difficulty in the matter of levels.

The areas added to the Borough include St. Catherine's and Guildown in Artington, and the Recreation Road area, Stoughton (with the Isolation Hospital and the Barracks), Bellfields, Slyfield Green, and the London Road and Epsom Road portions of Stoke-next-Guildford.

The Rural District is of an undulating character, and is divided into two portions by the chalk ridge, known as the Hog's Back, and the North Downs, which stretch across the whole district from west to east. Immediately to the north of this ridge, the chalk dips beneath the clay which forms the surface soil of a considerable area in the northern part of the district, including Wood Street, Stoughton, and portions of the villages of Merrow, East and West Clandon, and East and West Horsley, the parts of these villages contiguous to the main Epsom Road being situated on the chalk. In the extreme northern and north-western parts of the district the soil consists of the Upper, Middle and Lower Bagshot beds, which form many elevated and sandy heaths.

Immediately to the south of the Downs, thin strips of Upper Greensand and Clay (Gault) come to the surface, and run right across the district from Puttenham to Gomshall. To the south of these the geological formation is the Lower Greensand, with the exception of a horse-shoe shaped patch of Atherfield Clay, enclosing a small area of Weald Clay, which comes to the surface in the parishes of Artington and Compton and also in the extreme south of the parishes of Albury and Shere.

The soil in the low-lying parts near the river is formed of alluvium and gravel. Patches of gravel are also found on the Downs, and also a thin scattering over parts of the Bagshot sand areas.

The district is drained by the River Wey, which is navigable throughout in its passage from Godalming in the south to the Thames at Weybridge. Its chief tributary within the district is the Tillingbourne stream, which drains the valley immediately to the south of the Downs.

The geological formation of the district has a decided bearing on the question of water supply, as will be pointed out in a later section.

II. House Accommodation, especially for the Working Classes; its adequacy and fitness for habitation. Sufficiency of open space about houses, and cleanliness of surroundings. Supervision over erection of new houses.

The house accommodation for the working classes is, on the whole, fairly satisfactory, and is being gradually improved. There is, however, a decided scarcity of cottages in the more rural areas, and it is exceptional to find a habitable cottage empty. Many cottages have only two bedrooms, which often results in overcrowding. It is usually a most difficult matter to get cases of overcrowding abated owing to the scarcity of cottages. The Census Returns show that out of 4,484 *tenements* in the district, 958 have four rooms, 170 have three rooms, 133 have two, and 54 consist of one room only.

The same difficulty arises when cottages are found to be unfit for habitation. If reported under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, the possibility that the owner will not consider the property worth putting into repair has always to be faced, with the result that the unfortunate tenants have to turn out and may find it impossible to secure another cottage in the same locality. Without doubt, the scarcity of cottages of suitable size and rental in the rural parts of the district makes one hesitate to "condemn" cottages which are old and dilapidated, and leads one to consent to an unsatisfactory patching up of cottages, and all this brings about a lower standard of house sanitation in the district. Two cottages were reported to the Council under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, one at Gomshall and one at West Clandon. In the one case, a long respite was given pending the erection of a new cottage, and in the other,

the tenant was given notice to leave by the landlord. In the case of a cottage at Sutton Corner, Shere (which I reported the previous year), after long delay, the tenant felt compelled to put the place into repair at his own expense. Several old cottages at Send Marsh have been considerably improved ; but a pair near the Ripley Road will shortly be closed, owing to the expense that would have to be incurred to put them into repair. Improvements have also been carried out in cottages at the Hoe and Goose Green, Shere, St. Catherine's, Artington, and Ripley. In many instances I have met the owner or agent on the spot to discuss the work required.

The question of the supply of cottages for the labouring classes is a most difficult one, and, owing to the economic issues involved, requires careful consideration before a general remedy is advised. In the interest of the people themselves, as well as of the district generally, it is desirable that every inducement should be offered to them to remain on the land or to return to it. The existence of stringent and unreasonable building bye-laws is now-a-days, in the popular view, held to be the stumbling-block in the way of the adequate housing of the labouring classes in the rural districts. That this is not the case is shewn by the numbers of new houses built during the last four years in the various parishes of the Rural District :—

| | | Houses Built 1901—4. | |
|---|---|----------------------------|------------|
| Parishes With Building Bye-laws. Total Area 15,609 Acres. Population 8,419. | { | Stoke-next-Guildford | 87 |
| | | Pirbright | 18 |
| | | Artington | 8 |
| | | Godalming Rural (part) ... | 46 |
| | | Total..... | <u>159</u> |
| Parishes Without Building Bye-laws. Total Area 39,716 Acres. Population 12,507. | { | Albury | 4 |
| | | Clandon (West) | 1 |
| | | Clandon (East) | 0 |
| | | Compton | 7 |
| | | Horsley (West)..... | 12 |
| | | Horsley (East) | 0 |
| | | Merrow | 8 |
| | | Ockham. | 1 |
| | | Puttenham | 0 |
| | | Send and Ripley | 29 |
| | | Shere | 54 |
| | | Wanborough..... | 4 |
| | | Wisley | 0 |
| | | Worplesdon | 52 |
| | | Total..... | <u>172</u> |

In all but four of the parishes of the district, therefore, builders are at liberty to put up cottages of wood or other material than bricks, as they please, but no one has yet done so. The chief objection to wooden structures would be their short life. This could possibly be overcome by sanctioning their occupation for a definite period. The essential requirements would be dryness of site, protection from ground air and damp, adequate light and ventilation, and sufficient and suitable ground for the disposal of waste matters.

The difference in the cost of erection of an average brick cottage in the parishes with and without bye-laws, probably, does not amount to more than a difference of sixpence a week in the rent at the most.

New Bye-laws have recently been adopted by the Council relating to Tent and Van Dwellers. It is now incumbent on occupiers of land to provide a wholesome water supply and proper accommodation for the prevention of nuisances on such land. The Bye-laws impose duties in respect to the general sanitation of the vans, &c., on the dwellers themselves, as well as special duties on the occurrence of infectious disease.

As to the sufficiency of open space about houses, there is generally no lack of this, especially in the older cottages. A most marked difference, however, is noticeable in the amount of open space or garden ground that is now allotted to new cottages in comparison with the large areas surrounding the cottages built years ago.

The cleanliness of the immediate surroundings of the house is often as defective in the more scattered areas as in the more urban localities. Paved areas are essential at the backs of houses in most cases, for otherwise the yards get into a sloppy and insanitary condition. This is usually the spot where the children play, and it is frequently polluted by house refuse and waste water. In low-lying situations paving is especially desirable, and contributes to the cleanliness of the house as well as to the health and comfort of the inmates. There are no bye-laws in force in any part of the district dealing with this matter.

There is supervision over the erection of new houses only in the parishes in which Building Bye-laws are in force, viz., Godalming Rural (part), Artington, Pirbright and Stoke-next-Guildford (now

absorbed into the Borough). These bye-laws are based on the ordinary models of the Local Government Board, and were adopted in 1900 and 1901, replacing the older series adopted in 1885.

The Board's Bye-laws, adapted to Rural Districts, are not in force in any part of the district ; a suggestion that the adoption of such Bye-laws be considered having last year been negatived by the almost unanimous vote of the Council.

In the case of every house that is built in the district, a certificate must be obtained from the Council before it is occupied that an adequate supply of pure water is provided, in pursuance of Sec. 6 of the Public Health Water Act of 1878. This requirement is rigidly enforced by the Council, and several prosecutions have been ordered in cases of default, even when water had already been laid on from the mains. When formal application is made, the Sanitary Inspector visits the house, and where the supply is proposed to be taken from a well, a sample is taken for analysis in the Council's laboratory.

The following list shews the number and situation of new houses for which water certificates were granted during the year 1904 :—

| PARISH. | NO. OF HOUSES. | SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY. |
|---------------------------|----------------|--|
| Stoke-next-Guildford..... | 25 | Mains of Woking Water Co. |
| Worplesdon..... | 23 | Ditto |
| Pirbright..... | 3 | Ditto |
| Send..... | 10 | Ditto |
| Ockham | 1 | Ditto |
| West Horsley..... | 3 | Two from ditto and 1 from well |
| Artington | 2 | Mains of the Guildford Corporation |
| Godalming (Rural)..... | 4 | Mains of Godalming Corporation |
| Compton | 1 | Ditto |
| Wanboro'..... | 2 | One from the Wanboro' Spring and 1 from a well |
| Shere | 6 | Two from the private works of Sir R. M. Bray, and 4 from the mains of the Hurtwood Water Co. |
| Total..... | 80 | |

The character of the above list suggests that the proximity of water mains has more to do with the encouragement of building than the absence of bye-laws.

No new houses were built in eight parishes, viz., Puttenham, Albury, East Clandon, West Clandon, East Horsley, Ripley (Village), Wisley, Merrow.

III. Sewerage and Drainage: its sufficiency in all parts of the District. Conditions of sewers and house drains. Method or methods of disposal of sewage. Localities where improvements are needed.

Stoke-next-Guildford.

The Stoughton and Recreation Road portions of the parish of Stoke-next-Guildford, which has just been absorbed into the Borough, is fully sewered, and practically every house in that area—including the outlying districts of Bellfields and Slyfield Green—are connected with the new sewers laid by the Rural District Council. The sewage is all pumped on to double-contact bacteria beds, and then treated on an ample area of good land at Slyfield Green.

Ripley.

The new sewerage scheme for the village of Ripley, the loan of £5,700 for which was sanctioned by the Local Government Board in August, 1903, was completed at the end of the year. The new scheme, in which all the sewage is pumped, entirely replaces the old gravitation scheme, and none of the original works—which are henceforth to be used for surface water only—were utilised. The sewage is disposed of on an elevated patch of gravel after being first treated in single contact bacteria beds. All the laterals were laid at the time the main sewers were put down, so that the house connections can now be easily and expeditiously made.

Shere and Gomshall.

The only other parts of the district which are sewered are the adjacent villages of Shere and Gomshall. The original sewer in Shere was relaid in 1903, and the extension to Gomshall finished in 1902. The new Shere sewer is entirely satisfactory, and most of the houses in the village are connected with it. The Gomshall extension was found defective in several places, and, after many attempts on the part of the Shere Parochial Committee—to whom the drainage matters were referred—to stop the leakage of subsoil water, it was decided, on the advice of Mr. JAMES LEMON, M.I.C.E., to lay a new cast-iron sewer and use the existing sewer as a subsoil drain. A Local Government Board Enquiry was held in October into the application of the Council for sanction to borrow the further sum of £2,890 to

cover the estimate for the new work, and to pay off excess over the amount of previous loans, and to cover the expenses incurred in attempting to stop the leakages.

Artington.

The scheme prepared by the Rural District Council for the drainage of St. Catherine's, Artington, was in abeyance during the year, pending the Board's decision as to the extension of the Borough. The area proposed to be drained, with the exception of some half-a-dozen cottages which are immediately outside the new boundary, is now included in the Borough.

Pirbright.

The sewerage of Pirbright has been in contemplation for some years, but nothing has yet been finally settled. A petition, signed by eight prominent residents in the village, was addressed to the Council five years ago, asking that something should be done in the matter of the difficulty experienced in satisfactorily emptying cess-pools. The matter was reported to the Drainage Committee, who instructed the Surveyor to investigate and report upon the desirability of a sewerage scheme. As a result, a scheme was prepared, which was subsequently enlarged so as to deal with the sewerage from Pirbright Camp. The offer of the War Office to contribute £2,000 towards the extended scheme was accepted, and twenty acres of land was provisionally purchased as an outfall site for £4,000. Application has recently been made to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow £10,700 to carry out the scheme.

Strong opposition to the scheme has latterly been shown by the parishioners. A largely-signed petition against it was received by the Council in September, and a deputation received by the Drainage Committee in October. Exception was taken to the great cost of the proposed scheme, and a system of scavenging was suggested as an alternative.

The cost is undoubtedly heavy for the number of population to be served, as the village is scattered. The parts most in need of drainage in the village are those on the south side of the Green. This area is very low-lying, and is in winter waterlogged. The cess-

pools, not being watertight, are nearly always full, and their contents rise and fall with the subsoil water, and, therefore, escape into the surrounding ground, which, in the case of many of the cottages, is limited in extent. The contents of the pail-closets are also disposed of in the wet ground, which is for this purpose as well quite unsuitable. There can be no question but that something ought to be done to improve the present conditions. If scavenging of the cesspools is decided upon, the existing cesspools will, in most cases, require reconstruction, as they cannot at present be completely emptied in wet seasons.

Another part of the parish where improvement is imperatively necessary is Goal Road. Here there are some sixteen cottages which practically drain into a stagnant ditch at the bottom of their small back gardens, although in most instances cesspools are interposed.

Merrow.

Nothing further was done during the year in the matter of the drainage of Merrow. It was originally proposed to combine the drainage with that of the London Road area of Stoke-next-Guildford, but that area has now been taken into the Borough.

During the latter part of the year, a local Sanitary Committee, consisting of owners of property in the parish, was formed, and this Committee is taking vigorous measures to improve the sanitary condition of the parish by the institution of a system of scavenging, so as to obviate the necessity for a system of sewerage. An up-to-date air-tight cart has been purchased, which admits of the emptying of cesspools at any hour without the production of any nuisance. Standpipes are permanently fixed to the cesspools, and, by attaching the hose (a length of 100 feet has been provided) to the nozzles of the standpipes, the sewage can be pumped into the tank without any of it being exposed to the air. Sixty of these nozzles have already been fixed to cesspools in the parish ; some cesspools requiring a new top for the purpose. The Committee supply the standpipes with nozzles at cost price, and bear the expense of fixing themselves. A charge of 4s. 6d. per load is made for the emptying of cesspools. A few new cesspools have been dug and some connected together to facilitate emptying. A few privies and pail closets have been abolished, and hand-flushed w.c.'s substituted, and these connected

with cesspools. It is intended to bring about this change in all those that remain, so as to do away with the necessity of emptying the contents of the pails in the small area of ground attached to most of the cottages.

The house refuse is collected at present every six weeks, and tenants are advised to provide a covered movable receptacle.

The initial outlay involved was subscribed, and it is proposed to levy a voluntary rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £ to carry on the work.

George Street, Farncombe.

At the March meeting of the Council, it was resolved "That the offer of the Corporation of Godalming to receive the drainage from the various houses in George Street, Farncombe, into the sewers of the Corporation, on receipt of an amount equal to the General District Drainage Rate which the owners of such houses would have to pay if such houses were in the Borough, together with a sum equal to 25 per cent. on that rate, be, and the same is hereby, accepted by the Council."

A letter was received from the Godalming Corporation in April stating that they were not prepared to extend their sewer in Northbourne Road to the Borough Boundary, but would be prepared to contribute £50 towards the cost of extending such sewer, provided the sewer when laid vested in the Borough Authorities. The offer was accepted, and it was decided to make application to the Local Government Board for power to lay a sewer in George Street at the time of making up such street, under the provisions of the Private Streets Works Act. In October the Order was received from the Board investing the Council with the necessary urban powers, and declaring the expenses incurred by the Council in the execution of such powers to "be special expenses."

The offer of the Godalming Corporation to flush the sewer when laid for the sum of £6 yearly was accepted. The Surveyor was instructed to prepare plans for the work, and these were approved by the Council at their November meeting.

In the case of each new system of sewerage, Regulations have been adopted for the proper construction of house connections, and plans have first to be submitted to the Surveyor, who subsequently tests the new work before it is covered in.

IV. Excrement disposal: system in vogue; defects, if any.

Within the area drained by the new sewers in Stoke-next-Guildford, the old system has been entirely replaced by cistern-flushed water-closets.

In the village of Ripley, the result of a house-to-house inspection, carried out in 1901, shewed that, out of 189 houses, 57 had w.c.'s, 51 pail closets, and 81 privy vaults. About one-third of the w.c.'s were hand-flushed. For the most part they were connected with the sewers. The privies are emptied by the owners or occupiers at long intervals, and the pail contents are either dug into the garden ground where sufficient is available, or taken to the allotment plots or elsewhere by the tenants themselves or by a man who does the work weekly for a small fee. Some of the tenants who have no garden ground, and only back yards, bury the contents in the dust heaps. These places especially will require water-closets now that the new sewers and sewage disposal works are ready.

A voluntary system of excrement disposal has been in vogue at Albury since 1893, and has been found to work very satisfactorily. The owners of property in the village and immediate neighbourhood—chief of which is His Grace the Duke of Northumberland—formed themselves into a Sanitary Committee, and, to cover the initial expense of a cesspool cart, &c., levied the first year a rate of 1s. in the £ over the area proposed to be scavenged. The rateable value of this area was £2,728, and the 1s. rate thus produced £136, of which £81 was spent on the cart. A rate of 1d. in the £ is still levied towards the upkeep of the appliances. The general scavenging consists in the removal at night, twice weekly, of the contents of the pail closets, which are taken to a distant spot on the Downs and mixed with earth and lime. Each tenant pays 3s. 3d. a quarter per closet, and this sum is collected and paid over to the contractor. The watertight cesspools for the w.c.'s in the village (about 13 in number) are emptied on payment of 2s. 6d. per load. The tops of those cesspools are fitted with a nozzle to attach to the hose of the cart so that no nuisance is caused during the emptying. The cesspools for the sink waste, &c., are of the soak-away variety and are not emptied.

With the exception of the system at Albury and that recently instituted at Merrow, there is no systematic scavenging of closets and cesspools in the district. None is really needed except in some of the villages, such as Pirbright and Ripley, for the vast majority of tenants have sufficient ground in which to empty the contents of the pails, and arrangements are usually made with farmers for the disposal of the contents of privy vaults.

Where old and defective privies are found, a pail closet is generally advised, so as to ensure a more frequent removal of the contents, and because when vaults are constructed they usually admit water and so become a nuisance. Exception is not taken to the construction of privies in which the receptacles do not exceed about 8 cubic feet, and in which the bottom or floor is slightly raised above the ground level. These, if used with dry earth or ashes, are unobjectionable. It is rare, however, to find earth or ashes used either in the case of privies or properly constructed earth-closets with automatic apparatus.

A letter was received from the Pirbright Parish Council in December asking if the District Council would undertake the scavenging of the village, and at what cost.

V. Removal and disposal of House Refuse—whether by public scavenger or occupiers ; frequency and method.

A system of collection of house refuse was inaugurated by the District Council in May last for the parish of Stoke-next-Guildford. This was the first occasion on which public scavenging was instituted in the district.

A voluntary system was, during the year, commenced in Merrow by owners of property, formed into a Sanitary Committee. It is proposed to collect the house refuse once every six weeks.

There is no other systematic scavenging of refuse in the district, and there are no bye-laws in force dealing with private scavenging by occupiers. The usual practice is either to dig the refuse into the gardens, or to carry it away to allotment plots. Tips for refuse are provided in some villages, and men employed periodically to burn all that is combustible.

VI. Water Supply of the District or its several parts : its source (from public service or otherwise), nature (river water, well water, upland water, &c.), sufficiency, wholesomeness, and freedom (by special treatment or otherwise) from risks of pollution.

The Water Supply of the District is derived from the following sources :—

- (1) Works of the Woking Water Co.
- (2) „ „ Godalming Corporation.
- (3) „ „ Guildford „
- (4) Private Works of the Duke of Northumberland.
- (5) „ „ of Sir Reginald Bray.
- (6) Works of the Hurtwood Water Co.
- (7) Wells.
- (8) Rain Water.

(1) The Woking Water Company derive their supply from wells in the chalk—in one case from the chalk underlying the London clay. Two of the wells are situated on the north slope of the Downs, at West Clandon and West Horsley, where the chalk is on the surface. There are no habitations or other possible sources of pollution near.

The West Clandon Well is 104-ft. deep, and is lined throughout with 9-inch brickwork in cement, and is also backed with concrete. Two adits have been driven from the bottom of the well, one in a south-westerly direction for about a quarter of a mile, another for about 200 yds. in a south-easterly direction. Water level at rest, 90-ft. from surface. Sinks to 98-ft. on pumping. Well yields 200,000 gals. a day.

The West Horsley Well.—130-ft. deep. Lined for about 40 feet with cemented brickwork. Two adits, one 200 yards in an easterly direction, and another about a quarter of a mile in a westerly direction. Well yields about 180,000 gals. a day.

Dapdune Well.—This is a bored well, of 300 odd feet, situated near the River Wey, at Dapdune, Guildford. The bore tube passes through a thick stratum of clay before it reaches the chalk, which ensures the shutting off of all surface water. The water is pumped

directly from the bore-tube, in which it rises to within twenty feet of the surface. This well is capable of yielding 17,000 gallons an hour.

The water from all three wells is pumped into reservoirs at West Clandon and Newland's Corner, from which it is distributed to all the parishes north of the Downs, with the exception of Wanboro', Wisley and East Horsley, although the two last named parishes are within the Company's area of supply.

The great majority of the houses in the villages of these parishes have the water laid on, but a small minority of them, as well as out-lying houses, are still dependent on wells. The Company are, however, constantly extending their mains, which already ramify freely through the parishes. Among the extensions carried out during the year are the following :—(1) Ash Road, Worplesdon. (2) Jacob's Well. (3) Send Marsh. (4) West Horsley (additional).

In the case of Ash Road and Jacob's Well, the extensions were carried out under guarantee of the Council to pay the Company 5 per cent. on the outlay for five years, which amount of guarantee they must accept, according to the terms of a clause in their 1899 Act. When action is taken under this clause, however, technical difficulties appear to arise which cause long delays. The extensions take place much more rapidly when the Company take the matter up on their own account, which they readily do if any prospect of a moderate return is afforded by any suggested extension. The laying of the mains to places that were previously badly off for water has, as in the case of Wood Street, led to a considerable amount of building.

(2) The works of the Godalming Corporation supply some 150 houses in the adjacent parish of Godalming Rural. The sources of supply consist of springs at Godalming and a bore-hole into the lower greensand. The supply is constant. Negotiations were commenced in 1902 for the extension of the mains to the villages of Compton and Puttenham, which are within the area of supply of the Corporation. These villages are badly in need of good water. At both places the water for the most part is impure, but it is only at Puttenham that a marked scarcity has occurred in recent years. Owing to the difficulty of levels as regards Puttenham, the Godalming Corporation

have relinquished their rights of supply to the Wey Valley Water Company. A Parochial Committee was appointed in November, 1903, to deal with the Puttenham water question, and arrangements were soon concluded with the Wey Valley Co., for the extension of their mains into the village. The work has now actually been carried out. It is certainly suggestive of the utility of Parochial Committees to compare this with the progress of the proposed extension to Compton. The question of the supply to Holmbury and Peaslake was also opened about the same time in 1902, and this was first dealt with by a Parochial Committee, although finally taken up by a Company, who have now completed the necessary works and procured a good supply.

It is true that at Compton there has been but little local action in the matter of water supply as there is no actual scarcity of water. The defect arises from the quality of the water. Out of 14 samples examined in 1902, only one could be said to be of good quality.

(3) The water mains of the Guildford Corporation supplied considerable portions of the parishes of Stoke-next-Guildford and Artington, but only a small proportion of the houses supplied now remain in the Rural District. These are chiefly in the hamlets of Artington and Littleton, where the mains were extended during 1902. Only a few houses were connected at Littleton after the extension. Samples from four wells have recently been examined and found to be unsatisfactory in quality. The source of water supply of the Corporation is a well, some 30 odd feet, at Millmead, Guildford, which is fed by springs from the chalk and yields an abundant supply of water. A new bore-hole, over 300 feet deep, has recently been sunk, which is capable of supplying a large additional amount of water.

(4) The works of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland supplies a considerable number of houses in the parish of Albury, although many wells are still used in the village. The source is a bored well, of 35 feet in depth, sunk into the lower greensand. The water overflows at the surface, and, owing to its containing traces of iron, it is aerated by exposure in thin films to the air, and subsequently filtered through gravel. The bore-tube is situated away from habitations,

but lies immediately below a lake formed by the Tillingbourne stream, but, as the water has first to filter through 35 feet of sand and no suction is employed, there appears to be little danger of impurities getting into the supply. The water is pumped into a reservoir, so that the supply is constant.

(5) The north ward of the parish of Shere, which includes the villages of Shere and Gomshall, is supplied from the private water works of Sir Reginald Bray. The sources of supply are two wells situated in a meadow in the Tillingbourne Valley. These are 13 and 15 feet deep, and are capable of yielding 1,800 and 5,000 gals. an hour respectively. About 26,000 gals., however, is the daily amount pumped into the reservoir for distribution by gravitation. The vast majority of houses have the water laid on.

(6) The Hurtwood Water Company are about to supply the south ward of the parish of Shere, which includes the villages of Peaslake and Holmbury St. Mary. The Company was formed in October, 1903, on the recommendation of the Shere Parochial Committee, to whom the question of water supply for the south ward was delegated. Owing to the abundance of water to be found there, it was decided to go to the Tillingbourne Valley—which is about three miles distant—for the supply. A well 15-ft. deep was first sunk on the north side of the Tillingbourne stream, close to the roadside along which the defective sewer of the Gomshall extension ran. Running past the well on the other side was a ditch conveying a storm overflow of the Netley Pond, formed by the River. The water was “passed” by an expert analyst, but the results obtained in the Council’s Laboratory from the examination of a sample taken after a storm, coupled with the risky position of the well, led me to advise the Council to refuse their sanction to the supply. The Company, however, relied on the opinion of their expert and wrote to the Council, calling in question the accuracy of my figures, in consequence of which the Council decided to ask the County Analyst, Sir Thomas Stevenson, to inspect the well and take samples. His results entirely confirmed my own, and the opinion of the Company’s analyst on the sample taken at the same time was somewhat unfavourable. It is instructive to note that the figures obtained by the two experts from the analysis of identical samples taken at the same time from the pump only agreed exactly

in the amount of one ingredient, whereas the Water Company had, on the first occasion, rashly compared the figures obtained by two analysts at different times and under different conditions. It is well known that the composition of water in shallow wells, varies considerably from time to time.

The Company thereupon dug a new well on the slope to the south side of the River, at a spot which I pointed out as being free from the likelihood of pollution. This well is 13-ft. deep and 4-ft. in diameter. It was intended to make a deeper well but water was met with sooner than was expected. The well is steined with 2 by 4½-inch brick rings, with 1-inch cavity between rings, the whole built and grouted in cement, except the inner ring to a height of 2-ft. from the bottom, which is laid dry. The ground outside around well is dug out to a depth of 7 feet and concreted to a thickness of 18 inches. The well is domed in at the top, leaving a 2-ft. 6-in. square hole—the outside of the dome is rendered in cement. The water is of good quality. and, unlike that from the first well, is free from iron. When the samples were taken the water stood at 7 feet from the surface, and the well is capable of yielding an abundance of water.

The water is pumped by river power into a reservoir above Peaslake and Holmbury, near the 700-ft. contour line, from which it gravitates as a constant supply to these villages and surrounding areas. At the end of the year 37 houses were already connected, of which 21 are cottages.

The Wey Valley Co. obtain the water, which they are about to supply to Puttenham, from the Itchell Pumping Station of the Frimley and Farnborough District Water Co. The source is a chalk well, 300-ft. deep. The water is softened and is very pure.

(7) *Wells.* In a large rural district many outlying houses are not reached by the water mains, and have to remain dependent chiefly on wells. The quality of the water in the wells varies greatly in the different parts of the district. In the northern part of the district, speaking broadly, good water is only obtainable from the chalk, which, however, only forms a narrow strip running across the district. North of this the subsoil is formed of clay, and the shallow wells in this area are fed either by surface water or by beds of gravel, which usually yield a very hard water, which is in some cases impregnated

with an excessive amount of salts. In the Bagshot sand area the wells are very frequently polluted, and the water often contains iron. To the south of the Downs lies the lower greensand, which is an excellent water-bearing stratum. The upper layer (Folkestone beds) of this, which comes to the surface in a line from Puttenham to Gomshall usually gives a ferruginous water. The deep layer (the Hythe beds), which is at the surface in the southern parts of Albury and Shere, yields water of exceptional purity and appears to possess a remarkable purifying effect on the water that filters through it.

Numerous wells are dug in the gravel and sand following the course of the rivers, but the waters in these wells is rarely of good quality.

A steady improvement is being effected in the quality of the water supply in shallow wells. Samples are taken for analysis in cases where the supply appear of doubtful quality. If found to be bad the owners lay on the water from the mains if they are available—if not, the existing well is cleaned out and improved in construction, in accordance with specimen plans, which were issued by the Council in 1903. These plans are also sent to Builders, Architects, Estate Agents, &c., who are gradually adopting them. The essential principle in these plans is the exclusion of surface water by making the upper 6 or 12 feet impervious, which necessitates the filtration through that depth of soil of all water that enters the well.

Rain water. A good many of the cottages in the village of East Horsley have only a rain water supply. This is in most cases first passed through a gravel filter, but these filters are rarely looked after. Most cottagers object to rain water as a supply, and it is rare to find that it is drunk, except as tea, &c. In some cases, it is subsequently passed throughout a household filter, which to some extent ærates it. If care be taken to cleanse the gravel and sand filter, however, or if a Roberts' Rain Water Separator is used, entirely wholesome water can be obtained, to which the only objection is the taste. Certificates under the P.H.W.A. have, in some cases where no other supply was available, been granted for a rain water supply where proper means of filtration and adequate storage have been provided.

The following are average results of the Analysis of the chief Water Supplies.

| Supply. | Grains per gallon. | | | | | | | Parts per million. | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| | Total Solids. | Total Hardness. | Temporary Hardness. | Permanent Hardness. | Chlorine. | Nitrites. | Nitrogen as Nitrates. | Free Ammonia. | Albumenoid Ammonia. | |
| Woking Water Co. .. | 21.3 | 15.5 | 11.75 | 3.75 | 1.1 | .00 | .33 | .004 | .025 | |
| do. .. | 21.0 | 15.0 | 11.25 | 3.75 | .95 | .00 | .45 | .00 | .02 | |
| do. .. | 21.0 | 15.0 | 11.25 | 3.75 | 1.0 | .00 | .45 | .00 | .015 | |
| do. .. | 22.0 | 17.0 | 13.0 | 4.0 | 1.15 | .00 | .24 | .01 | .02 | |
| Guildford Corporation | 22.0 | 16.5 | 12.5 | 4.0 | 1.2 | .00 | .47 | .00 | .025 | |
| Godalming Corporation | 22.3 | 13.5 | 9.5 | 4.0 | 1.63 | .00 | .63 | Traces. | .035 | |
| Shere, Works of Sir R. M. Bray | 18.2 | 10.5 | .. | .. | 1.25 | .00 | .28 | Traces. | .025 | |
| do. Hurtwood Co.. | 20.5 | 13.0 | .. | .. | 1.1 | Faint trace. | .51 | .01 | .025 | |
| Albury Supply | 6.0 | 5.0 | .. | .. | .85 | .00 | .00 | .00 | Traces. | |
| Wey Valley Water Co. (analysis by Dr. Thresh) | 14.4 | 8.5 | 6.0 | 2.5 | 1.2 | .00 | .098 | .00 | .00 | |

VII. Places over which the Council have supervision, e.g., lodging houses, slaughterhouses, dairies, cowsheds and milkshops, bakehouses, factories and workshops. and offensive trades.

Lodging houses.—There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Slaughterhouses.—There are only nine at present in the whole district. One or two of these are of poor construction, and not well adapted for the purpose. They are all under frequent supervision, and are usually well kept. There is no Registration of Slaughterhouses in force in the district. The Sanitary Inspector reported in November last that he had by chance found that a butcher was in the habit of slaughtering in an outlying farm building, and the question of seeking powers to register slaughterhouses and make regulations was, on his advice, referred to a Committee.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—There are 104 registered cowsheds in the district. I have visited 36 of these during the year and the Sanitary Inspector also makes frequent inspections. The old Regulations, which had been in force since 1888, were revised in 1903, and are now practically identical with the model bye-laws. The cowsheds are frequently visited, and a large number of notices have been served for the improvements of the sheds, especially in the matter of lighting and drainage. Unfortunately, the earlier notices served to provide lighting for many of the sheds, resulted, in the absence of a statutory window area, in the provision of miniature windows which are quite inadequate for the efficient lighting of the sheds. The drainage has been improved, in many instances, by the provision of open channels leading into the external air in substitution for the old catchpits and closed drains inside the sheds. It can be said that the cowsheds generally—though many of them are of poor construction—are satisfactorily kept. Every opportunity is taken to impress upon cowkeepers the necessity of ensuring that the cows' teats and udders and the hands of the milkers are clean before milking is commenced, but a great deal of improvement is still called for in this respect. Very little is done in the way of grooming the cows, and the excessive length of many stalls leads to the fouling of the

cow's hind-quarters and udders on account of the manure falling in the stall and not on to the channel provided. As it is impossible to constantly supervise the production of milk in the sheds, it is probable that pollution will continue to take place until the same principle is adopted for its prevention as obtains in the Food and Drugs Act in the matter of adulteration with water, viz., examination of samples taken from the dealers. If a standard of bacterial purity were adopted, cowkeepers would be compelled to take measures for the exclusion of all filth from the milk.

Three dairy farms were found to be unregistered during the year. Placards were posted throughout the district in March calling attention to the necessity of registering cowsheds, &c.

A letter was received from the Urban District Council of Woking—where a bi-annual veterinary inspection of cows has been in force for some years—suggesting that the Council should also institute a similar inspection. The matter was referred to a Committee, who recommended “that the Council’s Inspector under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, be authorised to consult a veterinary surgeon (to be selected by the Council on terms to be arranged) when he thinks it necessary to do so”; also, “that, in order to secure uniformity of action, the Surrey County Council be asked to consider the advisability of taking steps to secure the systematic inspection of cows throughout the County for Tubercular Disease of the Udder by veterinary inspectors”; and “that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each Borough, Urban and Rural District Council in the County with a view to obtaining their support in the matter.”

A letter was received from the County Council in June to the effect that the Committee were not prepared at present to recommend the Council to undertake any duties in respect of the same, but that they might possibly be disposed to advise the County Council to ask Parliament for powers in the matter if Local Authorities in the County should unanimously ask the County Council to do so, and should express themselves as willing to accept liability for the cost of putting in force any powers that might be obtained. A reply was sent by the Council agreeing to accept this liability.

Factories and Workshops.—There are 15 factories on the Register.

As Sec. 22 of the Public Health Amendment Act is not in force in the district, the sanitation of factories is in the hands of the Factory Inspector, and the only concern of the Council is with the means of escape in case of fire. This matter is dealt with by the Surveyor.

There are 78 workshops on the register, but the great majority are on a very small scale, and in most cases only one or two hands are employed.

Special attention has been paid to the Bakehouses, and these are found on the whole to be kept very satisfactorily. There are no underground bakehouses. The Laundries', Dressmakers' and Tailors' workshops also call for periodical inspection. In one instance a tailor had made a workshop for his apprentices in the scullery which was quite unsuitable for the purpose.

The following tabular statement is now annually required by the Home Office from each Medical Officer of Health :—

VIII. Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

| Premises. | Number of | |
|--|--------------|------------------|
| | Inspections. | Written Notices. |
| Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) | 28 | 6 |
| Homeworkers' Premises..... | 7 | ... |
| | — | — |
| Total..... | 35 | 6 |
| | — | — |

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

| Particulars. | Number of Defects. | |
|--|--------------------|-----------|
| | Found. | Remedied. |
| <i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i> | | |
| Want of cleanliness | 2 | 2 |
| Overcrowding | 1 | 1 |
| Want of drainage of floors | 1 | 1 |
| Other nuisances..... | 3 | 3 |
| | — | — |
| | 7 | 7 |
| | — | — |

Sanitary accommodations—Sec. 22—P.H.A.A. not adopted.

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Homework :—

*List of Outworkers** (S. 107) :—

| | Lists. | Number of Outworkers. |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| Lists received | 2 | 7 |
| Addresses of outworkers— | | |
| forwarded to other Authorities | ... | ... |
| received from other Authorities | 2 | ... |

Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1904.

| | |
|---|------|
| Bakehouses..... | 27 |
| Blacksmiths | 13 |
| Carpenters, Plumbers, Painters, &c. | 21 |
| Laundries | 6 |
| Dressmakers and Tailors | 5 |
| Cycle Repairers... .. | 4 |
| Saddlers | 2 |
| Total number of workshops on Register | — 78 |

Offensive Trades.—There are no offensive trades within the meaning of Sect. 112 of the Public Health Act in the district. There is a knacker's yard in an isolated spot in the parish of Artington, and no complaints have been received of any nuisance arising therefrom.

IX. Nuisances : proceedings for their abatement—any remaining unabated.

A nuisance was created in February by the depositing of some of the Guildford town refuse in close proximity to dwellings at Stoughton. The owner of the property required the refuse to raise the ground level at the rear of his cottages. This went on for four or five days before it could be stopped. As a result the Inspector was empowered at the following meeting of the Council "to serve notices under sec. 94 of the Public Health Act upon any person or persons depositing or causing to be deposited in the district of the Council town refuse so as to cause a nuisance."

A letter was received in February from the Local Government Board asking for the Council's observations on a letter received from

the Corporation of Godalming with reference to the sanitary condition of certain houses in George Street, Farncombe. The existing defects will now soon be remedied. (See under Sewerage.)

A complaint was received from the Thames Conservancy in April respecting the passage of offensive matter into a surface water drain in the London Road area of Stoke-next-Guildford, the drain emptying into a ditch communicating with the River Wey. The pollution was caused by the overflow from a cesspool belonging to one of the large houses in the vicinity, and a notice to abate the nuisance forthwith was served on the owner.

A nuisance was caused at East Clandon by the encampment of gipsies on a field belonging to a dairy farm on which no proper provision in the way of privy accommodation and water supply had been provided. Proceedings were taken before the magistrates against the occupiers of the farm for the abatement of the nuisance, when a nominal fine of twenty shillings was inflicted, on the defendants undertaking to carry out the work to the satisfaction of the authority. As an alternative to this, however, the gipsies were sent away from the farm.

A complaint was received from Shere of an alleged nuisance in a meadow near the river thought to be caused by the percolation of the effluent from the sewage outfall works. I found that the meadow in question was low-lying and waterlogged, and had in places some puddles of discoloured water. There appeared to be nothing offensive, and, in any case, owing to its distance the sewage farm could have had nothing to do with the condition of the meadow beyond contributing some purified subsoil water.

Numerous nuisances have been reported to the Council at their monthly meetings by the Inspector of Nuisances, and statutory notices have thereupon been ordered to be served. These nuisances have included defective drainage and privy accommodation, dirty and dilapidated cottages, defective ventilation (in some cases owing to the windows not being made to open), improper keeping of pigs, &c.

Legal proceedings were ordered to be taken in a few instances

unless the required works were completed in a specified time. This sufficed except in the case of the gipsies' encampment. It was necessary for the Council to carry out the work in two instances only, viz., once under the Public Health Water Act for the supply of water to a pair of cottages, and once under the Infectious Disease Prevention Act for the cleansing of a dirty house.

X. Methods of dealing with infectious disease: notification; Isolation Hospital accommodation and its sufficiency; disinfection.

As a large percentage of the cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria are removed to Hospital, I am, in many cases, first notified (by telephone or wire) of the occurrence of cases of infectious disease in my capacity as Medical Officer to the Isolation Hospital. The percentage of these cases removed last year was 77. It is very rarely any difficulty is experienced in prevailing upon parents to allow their children to be removed, and in those cases which were nursed at home there was sufficient means of isolation. In every instance I pay an early visit to the house to make enquiries into the origin of the infection. This involves an inspection of the house, sanitary conveniences and means of drainage; examination of the other inmates and a visit to any neighbouring houses where any suspicious illness has occurred. If the patient attends school, and if no sufficient cause is found at home, a visit is paid to the school and enquiries made as to occurrence of present or recent illness among the scholars. Such scholars if present are examined, and, if absent, they are visited by me at their homes in those instances where a doctor has not been called in, and where there is any reason to suspect the illness is a notifiable disease.

As soon as the patient is removed, the bedding, &c., is fetched away by a covered van and disinfected by steam in the Washington Lyon Disinfector at the Hospital. After the removal of the bedding, the Sanitary Inspector visits the house and disinfects the room by means of sulphur candles.

In those cases where the room or house generally is found to be dirty a notice, under the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, is served on the owner or occupier to cleanse and whitewash after the sulphur fumigation has been carried out.

The diseases notifiable in the district are merely these included in the Act. Measles and Phthisis are not notifiable, and there is no voluntary system of Phthisis notification in force. Disinfection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector after cases of Phthisis when he is requested to do so.

Means were provided by the Council in 1901 for the examination by the Medical Officer of Health of (1) Swabs from suspicious cases of Diphtheria, (2) Specimens from suspicious cases of Typhoid Fever, and (3) Sputum from possible cases of Phthisis.

These examinations undoubtedly serve to detect cases at an earlier period and some also which would otherwise escape notification, and also to prevent the removal to the Infectious Hospital of patients suffering from other diseases.

Isolation Hospital.—The hospital is situated in the centre of the district, and is now included in the enlarged Borough of Guildford. The Rural District Council is one of the constituent authorities of the Guildford, Godalming and Woking Joint Hospital Board, who own and manage the Hospital.

The following table gives the number and character of the cases admitted during the year from the districts of each of the constituent authorities :—

| | Admissions. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. | Typhoid | Deaths. |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Guildford Rural | 52 | 27 | 24 | 1 | 0 |
| Guildford Borough | 12 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 0 |
| Godalming | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Woking | 85 | 60 | 24 | 1 | 4 { 3 Diph. 1 Sc. F. |
| Totals..... | 154 | 93 | 58 | 3 | 4 |

The totals for the preceding years were as follows :—

| | |
|-------|------|
| 1901. | 293. |
| 1902. | 190. |
| 1903. | 161. |

It will be seen that the percentage of deaths is very low ; 5 per cent. in the case of Diphtheria, and less than 1 per cent. in the case of Scarlet Fever.

Twelve patients on admission were found not to be suffering from the diseases for which they were sent in, viz., six sent in as Diphtheria, five as Scarlet Fever, and one as Typhoid. Four of these patients came from Guildford Rural District, seven from Woking, and one from the Borough of Guildford. In the case of Diphtheria patients, swabs are, in most instances, previously sent to me for diagnosis, and it is significant that this confirmatory test was not applied in the six cases mentioned. Neither was a specimen sent for examination from the supposed case of Typhoid Fever, for, if this had been done, the case would not have been notified and removed.

The Hospital contains provision for 37 patients, allowing the Local Government Board's requirements of 144 sq. ft. per bed. It is proposed to build a new Pavilion for Scarlet Fever patients as the existing accommodation has been found insufficient ; as many as 50 patients having been treated at one time during the autumn in recent years.

A Local Government Board Enquiry was held in October into the Hospital Board's application for sanction to borrow £3,650 for the building of the new block and for the enlargement of the administrative block and stable accommodation. This sanction was obtained, and tenders have been invited for the work, according to the plans prepared by Mr. E. L. LUNN.

The Joint Board's Hospital for the Isolation of Smallpox cases is situated on Whitmoor Common, about three miles from Guildford, and has accommodation for ten patients. No patients were admitted during the year. The Hospital is fully equipped, and when empty is under the charge of a caretaker and his wife, who keep everything in readiness for the reception of patients.

XI. Prevalence of Infectious Disease.

It will be seen from Table III. that 88 cases of infectious diseases were notified in the district during the year, but no less than 15 of these were cases of Erysipelas. The notification of this affection, although compulsory under the Act, appears to serve no useful purpose. Some of the cases when visited were found to be of a very mild and transient nature. I have not yet found a case infected from another, and in no instance were two cases reported from the same house. As in previous years there was a predominance of cases notified from Shere and Albury.

Scarlet Fever.—Forty cases of this disease were notified, of whom 27 were removed to Hospital.

Seventeen of the cases occurred in the early part of the year in Send and Ripley, and were an extension of the outbreak which originated in a School at Ripley in November of the previous year.

Eleven cases were notified from Godalming Rural parish. Three of these were at the Charterhouse, and were isolated in the School Sanatorium. Three cases occurred in March in a large house near Shackleford. The remaining five cases occurred in four houses within a very small compass at Lower Eashing in October and November. The first case notified was a child who had been ill a month before a doctor was called in owing to the onset of a severe complication. After that lapse of time it was difficult to trace the origin. This case was notified on October 27, the second and third cases on Nov. 3, the fourth on Nov. 16, and the fifth on Nov. 30. It will be seen that the cases could not possibly be infected one from the other (except possibly the second and third) as the intervals are far too long. The conclusion, therefore, is that the source or sources of infection operated throughout November. This source may have been a child going about whilst in an infectious condition. It may be significant, however, that the five cases occurred in the immediate vicinity of a large Flock Mill, where large quantities of rags are imported and converted into flock. If any of these rags came from infected dwellings, the dust produced during the operation might easily give

rise to infection in the immediate locality. A request for information as to whether the rags had been previously subjected to an efficient process of disinfection was addressed to the Manager in November, but no reply had been received up to the end of the year.

Six cases occurred at West Horsley amongst school-children. These were connected with those notified in the previous year, probably through the medium of mild undiscovered cases of the disease.

Single imported cases were notified from Pirbright, Worplesdon, and West Clandon, and three cases in two houses in Stoke-next-Guildford.

Diphtheria.—Twenty-six cases were notified, of whom no less than 24 were removed to the hospital.

Twelve cases occurred in ten houses at Ockham. The disease had been prevalent in a mild form for at least a month before the first case was notified. The earliest case that could be discovered occurred at the Elm Corner end of Ockham parish, and it was probably spread to the Village end by the attendance of some of the children at school. On receipt of the first notification, I visited the school and found that some of the children were away ill with sore throats. On taking swabs from the throats of three of these children, I was enabled to decide that they were suffering from mild attacks of diphtheria, and they were at once removed to Hospital. The first six cases were notified in July. The schools were closed for the holidays in August, and no cases were discovered during that month. The school-cleaner contracted the disease in September, and during that month the school was closed by the managers for a fortnight. Further cases having occurred during October and November, I advised the closing of the school for a month. This apparently has had the desired effect.

Five cases (one imported) occurred in the adjoining parish of Ripley, and although no definite connection could be traced (the first child notified having already been ill a fortnight) it was probably an extension from Ockham.

Two cases occurred at Pirbright, and isolated cases in Worplesdon, Stoke-next-Guildford, Wisley, Shere and Puttenham.

With very few exceptions, the cases were mild in character, and not one was fatal.

Typhoid Fever.—Although five cases were notified, two of these turned out to be of a negative character and two were imported. Only one case can, therefore, be fairly credited to the district, which is most satisfactory. This was a child living in the southernmost part of Albury parish, near Cranleigh. Being an isolated case the origin could not be definitely traced.

Puerperal Fever.—The two cases occurred in George Street, Farncombe, and Stoke-next-Guildford in women who had been attended by midwives.

Smallpox.—No case occurred during the year, but no less than six notices were received from Port Sanitary Authorities that persons who had travelled in vessels where Smallpox had broken out were proceeding to the district. In all such cases the persons are kept under observation after arrival.

Measles.—This disease was very prevalent in the district—especially in West Horsley, East Clandon, Merrow, Stoke-next-Guildford, and Worplesdon, in all of which places the schools were temporarily closed. The closing of the schools on account of this disease seldom appears to have any effect, unless the step is taken at the very outset. This is especially true in localities where the disease has been absent for several years, as there is then a large proportion of susceptible children. Three deaths from Measles were registered.

Whooping Cough.—There was an outbreak amongst the children attending Albury Heath School in November, and the School was closed for a month.

XII. Laboratory Work.

Water Analysis.—Eighty samples of water were analysed during the year, and four samples of sewage and sewage effluents.

The following table shews the source of the samples and the results :—

| Parishes, &c. | Number. | Suitable for Drinking. | Unsuitable for Drinking. | Doubtful Quality. |
|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Albury | 1 | .. | .. | 1 |
| Shere | 7 | 4 | 3 | .. |
| East Horsley | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| West Horsley | 4 | 2 | 2 | .. |
| East Clandon | 1 | .. | 1 | .. |
| Ripley | 4 | .. | 4 | .. |
| Send | 6 | .. | 6 | .. |
| Godalming Rural | 2 | .. | 2 | .. |
| Wanborough | 1 | 1 | .. | .. |
| Stoke | 2 | .. | 2 | .. |
| Artington | 4 | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Worplesdon | 23 | 2 | 20 | 1 |
| Pirbright | 6 | .. | 6 | .. |
| Guildford Supply | 6 | 6 | .. | .. |
| Woking Water Co. .. | 3 | 3 | .. | .. |
| Hurtwood Water Co.. | 4 | 2 | 2 | .. |
| Shere Supply | 2 | 2 | .. | .. |
| Godalming Supply .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. |
| Totals | 80 | 24 | 51 | 5 |

Six of the above samples were from well supplies for which certificates were required.

Four samples of sewage and sewage effluents from the Corporation and Stoke-next-Guildford Sewage Farms were analysed in connection with the Borough extension.

Bacteriological Work.—Forty-one specimens were examined during the year—most of them being sent to me by medical men, and a few taken by myself during investigations into the origin of cases of Diphtheria.

| Specimens from :— | Number. | Positive. | Negative. |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Suspicious cases of Diphtheria .. | 27 | 12 | 15 |
| „ „ Typhoid | 10 | 3 | 7 |
| „ „ Phthisis | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Totals | 41 | 15 | 26 |

XIII. Vital Statistics.

The population of the district at the middle of 1904 may be put as 22,310, an increase of 350 over the previous year.

The populations of the five sub-districts are given in Table II. and that of the various parishes at the beginning of this report.

Birth Rate.—508 births were registered, giving a birth rate of 22·8 per 1,000 of the population.

Death Rate.—219 deaths were registered in the district. To this number must be added 46 deaths of persons belonging to the district, which occurred at the County Hospital, Union Workhouse and Brookwood Asylum, and four deaths that occurred at the Isolation Hospital have to be deducted, giving a nett number of 261 and a nett death rate of 11·7 per 1,000. This is considerably higher than the previous year (9·8) but lower than the average for nine years (12·8). A comparison of the causes of death shews that the increase over the previous year was chiefly brought about by more deaths from Phthisis, Cancer, Pneumonia and Diarrhœa. (See Table IV.) There were three deaths from Measles, and one from Whooping Cough, but not a single death from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria or Typhoid Fever.

The Birth and Death Rates were actually a little higher than above recorded owing to the *average* population throughout the year having been less than the population at the *middle* of the year, which is the figure required in the tables.

XIV. Meteorology.

With the exception of the first two months of the past year, its climatic character differs greatly from that of its predecessor, in which the mean of the aggregates of rainfall reached 48·03-in., the mean of those of the district, given in the tables of the Meteorological Office, being 27·20-in. In consequence of the moderate totals of the latter ten months of 1904, its mean of the seven registers of the reporting stations, as given in the table appended below, is only 26·59-in., rather less than the mean of the district. As there noted, the driest month in the year (June) only averaged ·70-in., while that of January, the wettest, was 4·49-in. Remarkable variations in rainfall were recorded

within short distances, notably in the case of Piccard's Rough, near St. Catharine's, and Bramley, well within three miles of each other, the respective amounts being 22·79-in. and 28·12-in., the most copious aggregate being 29·51-in. at Chiddingfold, which is considerably further afield. The number of days on which ·01-in. or more fell also differs materially, as at Piccard's Rough, 139, and Epsom Road, 197. The most copious day's deposit at any station was 1·31-in. at Bramley, on January 30, closely followed by 1·30-in. at Burpham, on December 6. Throughout the year, snow, thunder and lightning, as in 1903, have been conspicuously and agreeably limited in amount. The number of contributors to the annexed table is comparatively small. I trust that next year may show an improvement in this respect.

J. BARTLETT.

Table showing the comparative prevalence of rain at seven stations in the Guildford District and vicinity during the year 1904.

| | Jan. in. | Feb. in. | Mar. in. | Apr. in. | May in. | June. in. | July. in. | Aug. in. | Sep. in. | Oct. in. | Nov. in. | Dec. in. | Total. in. | Wet Days. |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Epsom Road, Guildford | 4·05 | 3·68 | 1·41 | 1·27 | 3·45 | 0·61 | 1·31 | 1·80 | 1·69 | 2·33 | 1·68 | 2·84 | 26·12 | 197 |
| Piccard's Rough, Guildford | 3·44 | 3·32 | 1·01 | 1·10 | 3·07 | 0·46 | 1·10 | 1·72 | 1·78 | 1·96 | 1·30 | 2·53 | 22·79 | 139 |
| Marlyn's House, Burpham | 4·01 | 3·51 | 1·40 | 1·34 | 3·18 | 0·63 | 1·28 | 1·75 | 1·65 | 2·03 | 1·53 | 2·88 | 25·19 | 157 |
| Compton Rectory Charterhouse, Godalming | 4·21 | 3·80 | 1·54 | 1·09 | 3·95 | 0·71 | 1·65 | 2·01 | 1·67 | 2·12 | 1·56 | 2·94 | 27·25 | 163 |
| Chiddingfold | 5·58 | 4·34 | 1·45 | 1·44 | 3·27 | 1·03 | 1·02 | 2·14 | 1·93 | 2·33 | 1·41 | 3·57 | 29·51 | 191 |
| Bramley | 5·74 | 4·28 | 1·53 | 1·39 | 3·62 | 0·68 | 1·18 | 1·43 | 1·35 | 2·18 | 1·57 | 3·37 | 28·12 | 172 |
| Total of 7 stations | 31·44 | 26·86 | 9·72 | 9·00 | 23·99 | 4·91 | 8·97 | 12·86 | 11·67 | 15·04 | 10·62 | 21·02 | 186·10 | .. |
| Mean of do. | 4·49 | 3·84 | 1·39 | 1·29 | 3·43 | 0·70 | 1·28 | 1·84 | 1·67 | 2·15 | 1·52 | 3·00 | 26·59 | .. |

My best thanks are due to Mr. Bartlett and also to the contributors for supplying their rainfall registers at the stations mentioned in the table.

I am,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Oaklands,
Woodbridge Road,
Guildford.

R. W. C. PIERCE.

Table I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and previous Years.

| YEAR. | Population estimated to Middle of each Year. | Births. | | Total Deaths Registered in the District. | | | | Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District. | Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District. | Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District. | Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District. | |
|------------------------------------|--|---------|--------|---|--|--------------|--------|---|--|--|---|--------|
| | | | | Under 1 Year of Age. | | At all Ages. | | | | | Number. | Rate.* |
| | | Number. | Rate.* | Number. | Rate per 1000 Births registered. | Number. | Rate.* | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1895 | 20570 | 559 | 27.2 | 44 | 79 | 247 | 12.0 | 2 | 2 | 33 | 278 | 13.5 |
| 1896 | 20830 | 533 | 25.6 | 68 | 127 | 256 | 12.3 | 15 | 9 | 23 | 270 | 12.9 |
| 1897 | 20260 | 512 | 25.2 | 42 | 82 | 216 | 10.6 | 12 | 7 | 33 | 242 | 11.9 |
| 1898 | 20510 | 460 | 22.4 | 60 | 130 | 240 | 11.7 | 5 | 2 | 34 | 272 | 13.3 |
| 1899 | 20760 | 472 | 22.7 | 61 | 129 | 248 | 11.9 | 9 | 8 | 50 | 290 | 13.9 |
| 1900 | 21010 | 508 | 24.2 | 63 | 124 | 299 | 14.2 | 9 | 9 | 45 | 335 | 15.9 |
| 1901 | 21260 | 505 | 23.7 | 45 | 89 | 218 | 10.2 | 28 | 15 | 52 | 255 | 12.0 |
| 1902 | 21600 | 513 | 23.7 | 47 | 91 | 224 | 10.4 | 6 | 3 | 41 | 262 | 12.1 |
| 1903 | 21960 | 489 | 22.2 | 42 | 86 | 192 | 8.7 | 8 | 7 | 31 | 216 | 9.8 |
| Averages for years 1895—1903 | 20973 | 506 | 24.1 | 53 | 104 | 237 | 11.4 | 11 | 7 | 38 | 267 | 12.8 |
| 1904 | 22310 | 508 | 22.8 | 38 | 74 | 219 | 9.8 | 4 | 4 | 46 | 261 | 11.7 |

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

| | | | |
|--|-----------|---|----------------------|
| Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water). | } 55,000. | Total population at all ages, 21,192 | } At Census of 1901. |
| | | Number of inhabited houses, 4,265 | |
| | | Average number of persons per house, 5. | |

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—Isolation Hospital of the Guildford, Godalming, and Woking Joint Hospital Board, Stoke-next-Guildford.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford; Union Workhouse and Infirmary, Guildford; Brookwood County Asylum, Woking.

Table II.—Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1904 and previous years.

| Names of Localities. | 1. Albury Sub-District. | | | | 2. Godalming Sub-District. | | | | 3. Guildford Sub-District. | | | | 4. Ripley Sub-District. | | | | 5. Woking Sub-District. | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| | Population esti- mated to middle of each Year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. | Population esti- mated to middle of each Year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. | Population esti- mated to middle of each Year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. | Population esti- mated to middle of each year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. | Population esti- mated to middle of each year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. |
| Year. | a. | b. | c. | d. | a. | b. | c. | d. | a. | b. | c. | d. | a. | b. | c. | d. | a. | b. | c. | d. |
| 1895 | 5126 | 138 | 64 | 13 | 3756 | 72 | 41 | 6 | 5775 | 179 | 57 | 10 | 2902 | 74 | 36 | 3 | 3011 | 98 | 47 | 12 |
| 1896 | 5114 | 111 | 48 | 10 | 3781 | 85 | 40 | 10 | 5937 | 174 | 82 | 25 | 2922 | 81 | 35 | 10 | 3076 | 80 | 36 | 12 |
| 1897 | 5102 | 116 | 63 | 10 | 2925 | 54 | 32 | 5 | 6086 | 172 | 45 | 8 | 2942 | 91 | 28 | 5 | 3145 | 79 | 36 | 13 |
| 1898 | 5090 | 111 | 57 | 7 | 3010 | 56 | 34 | 10 | 6242 | 149 | 75 | 20 | 2962 | 61 | 30 | 8 | 3206 | 83 | 39 | 13 |
| 1899 | 5078 | 97 | 55 | 6 | 3035 | 60 | 24 | 3 | 6394 | 156 | 79 | 24 | 2982 | 68 | 34 | 9 | 3271 | 91 | 47 | 15 |
| 1900 | 5066 | 110 | 80 | 17 | 3060 | 59 | 41 | 7 | 6543 | 172 | 92 | 21 | 3005 | 83 | 38 | 6 | 3336 | 84 | 48 | 12 |
| 1901 | 5054 | 114 | 53 | 10 | 3085 | 61 | 41 | 4 | 6695 | 171 | 87 | 14 | 3025 | 65 | 32 | 6 | 3401 | 94 | 42 | 11 |
| 1902 | 5120 | 109 | 61 | 13 | 3135 | 69 | 37 | 5 | 6820 | 169 | 77 | 11 | 3055 | 69 | 45 | 11 | 3470 | 97 | 42 | 9 |
| 1903 | 5203 | 102 | 58 | 4 | 3225 | 46 | 33 | 3 | 6910 | 184 | 68 | 27 | 3096 | 74 | 22 | 2 | 3526 | 83 | 35 | 8 |
| Averages of Years 1895 to 1903. | 5107 | 112 | 60 | 10 | 3223 | 62 | 36 | 6 | 6377 | 170 | 73 | 18 | 2987 | 74 | 33 | 7 | 3271 | 88 | 41 | 12 |
| 1904 | 5278 | 88 | 74 | 9 | 3235 | 67 | 33 | 4 | 7055 | 189 | 83 | 16 | 3126 | 69 | 30 | 3 | 3616 | 95 | 41 | 6 |

Table III.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASE. | CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT. | | | | | | TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH SUB-DISTRICT. | | | | | NUMBER OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH SUB-DISTRICT. | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | At all Ages. | At Ages—Years. | | | | | | Albury Sub-District. | Guildford Sub-District. | Godalming Sub-District. | Ripley Sub-District. | Woking Sub-District. | Albury Sub-District. | Guildford Sub-District. | Godalming Sub-District. | Ripley Sub-District. | Woking Sub-District. |
| | | Under 1. | 1 to 5. | 5 to 15. | 15 to 25. | 25 to 65. | 65 and upwards. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small-pox | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cholera | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria..... | 26 | .. | 7 | 15 | 2 | 2 | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 20 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 18 | 3 |
| Membranous Croup | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Erysipelas | 15 | .. | 1 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Scarlet Fever | 40 | .. | 4 | 25 | 8 | 3 | .. | 7 | 3 | 11 | 17 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 1 |
| Typhus Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Enteric Fever | 5 | .. | .. | 2 | 1 | 2 | .. | 2 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Relapsing Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Continued Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Puerperal Fever | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Plague | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| TOTALS | 88 | .. | 12 | 43 | 14 | 18 | 1 | 17 | 11 | 14 | 38 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 32 | 4 |

Table IV.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1904.

| CAUSES OF DEATH. | DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO THE WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO SUB-DISTRICTS (at all ages) | | | | | Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District. |
|---|---|----------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| | All ages. | Under 1. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards. | Albury Sub-District | Godalming Sub-District | Guildford Sub-District | Ripley Sub-District | Woking Sub-District | |
| Small-pox | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Measles | 3 | .. | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. |
| Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Whooping-cough | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria and membranous croup | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Croup | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Fever { | Typhus | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | Enteric | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | Other continued | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Epidemic influenza | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cholera | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Plague | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diarrhœa | 8 | 8 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 6 | .. | .. | .. |
| Enteritis | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| Puerperal fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Erysipelas | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| Other septic diseases .. | 5 | 1 | .. | .. | 2 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | 4 | 1 | .. | .. |
| Phthisis | 24 | .. | .. | 1 | 6 | 16 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 4 | .. |
| Other tubercular diseases | 9 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 5 | 1 | 1 | .. | 2 | .. |
| Cancer, malignant disease | 22 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 11 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 6 | .. |
| Bronchitis | 16 | 4 | 1 | .. | .. | 2 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 1 | .. |
| Pneumonia | 15 | 2 | 4 | .. | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | .. |
| Pleurisy | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Other diseases of Respiratory organs | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. |
| Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Venereal diseases | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| Premature birth | 6 | 6 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. |
| Diseases and accidents of parturition | 3 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 | .. | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| Heart diseases | 34 | 1 | .. | 2 | 1 | 8 | 22 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 6 | .. |
| Accidents | 11 | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | .. |
| Suicides | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| All other causes | 97 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 24 | 54 | 38 | 5 | 30 | 9 | 15 | .. |
| All causes | 261 | 38 | 16 | 9 | 16 | 76 | 106 | 74 | 33 | 83 | 30 | 41 | 4 |

TABLE V.—Showing the number of houses invaded, and of persons attacked by the undermentioned Zymotic Diseases, in each Parish of the District, during the year 1904, and of the previous ten years, and of the number of such cases removed to the Isolation Hospital.

| REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICTS. | PLACES. | Small Pox. | | | Scarlet Fever. | | | Diphtheria. | | | Typhoid Fever. | | | Doubtful Fever. | | Membranous Group. | | Erysipelas. | | Puerperal Fever. |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------|---------|-------------------------|----------------|---------|-------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|-------------|---------|---------------------|
| | | Cases. | Houses. | Removed to Hospital. | Cases. | Houses. | Removed to Hospital. | Cases. | Houses. | Removed to Hospital. | Cases. | Houses. | Removed to Hospital. | Cases. | Houses. | Cases. | Houses. | Cases. | Houses. | |
| WORKING | PIRBRIGHT | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 2 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. |
| | WORPLESDON | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | .. |
| GODALMING | GODALMING Rural .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 | 6 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | PUTTENHAM | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | COMPTON | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | WANBOROUGH .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| ALBURY | ALBURY | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | .. |
| | SHERE | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | 5 | .. |
| | EAST CLANDON .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | WEST CLANDON .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | EAST HORSLEY .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | WEST HORSLEY .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 | 6 | 5 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | RIPLEY | .. | .. | .. | 8 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 5 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| | SEND | .. | .. | .. | 6 | 4 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. |
| RIPLEY | OCKHAM | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 11 | 13 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | WISLEY | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | STOKE WITHOUT .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| GUILDFORD | ARTINGTON | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. |
| | MERROW | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. |
| | Total in 1904..... | .. | .. | .. | 40 | 28 | 26 | 26 | 23 | 24 | 5 | 5 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15 | 15 | 2 |
| | Total in 1903..... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 79 | 39 | 41 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | 10 | 10 | 2 |
| | Total in 1902..... | 1 | * | .. | 40 | 29 | 31 | 42 | 32 | 37 | 4 | 4 | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | .. |
| | Total in 1901..... | 4 | 2 | 4 | 46 | 34 | 34 | 59 | 50 | 50 | 6 | 6 | 4 | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 8 | 7 | .. |
| | Total in 1900..... | .. | .. | .. | 49 | 31 | 30 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | 6 | 6 | 1 |
| | Total in 1899..... | .. | .. | .. | 52 | 44 | 24 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 | 10 | 1 |
| | Total in 1898..... | .. | .. | .. | 36 | 28 | 23 | 16 | 11 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 5 | .. | .. | 3 | 3 | 13 | 13 | 3 |
| | Total in 1897..... | .. | .. | .. | 21 | 18 | 13 | 20 | 17 | 14 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 | 6 | 2 |
| | Total in 1896..... | .. | .. | .. | 28 | 18 | 21 | 26 | 17 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 | 12 | 1 |
| | Total in 1895..... | .. | .. | .. | 37 | 19 | 19 | 12 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 4 | .. | 4 | 2 | 2 | .. | 10 | 10 | 1 |
| | Total in 1894..... | .. | .. | .. | 40 | 32 | 24 | 40 | 28 | 29 | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | 13 | 13 | .. |

* Camp.

GUILDFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

For the Year ended December 31st, 1904.

COUNCIL'S OFFICES,
COMMERCIAL ROAD,
GUILDFORD,
16th January, 1905.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Guildford Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS ONSLOW AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my fourth Annual Report of the work carried out in my Department during the year ended December 31st, 1904.

Complaints.

During the past year 40 complaints in writing have been received respecting nuisances within your District. An inspection was made in each case, and, where sanitary defects were found, all necessary steps were taken to remedy the same.

A complaint was received from the Thames Conservancy Board, respecting the pollution of a ditch at Stoke Park which was caused by the overflow from cesspools being connected thereto; temporary arrangements were made by means of coke breeze filters pending Sewers being provided for this neighbourhood which is now in the extended Borough of Guildford.

Notices.

The following is a summary of Notices served for the abatement of nuisances in your District, all of which were complied with :—

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Preliminary Notices | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 144 |
| Statutory Notices, under Sec. 23, Public Health Act, 1875 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| „ „ „ „ 36, „ „ „ „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| „ „ „ „ 94, „ „ „ „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| „ „ „ „ 5, Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 1st Water Notices, under Public Health (Water) Act, 1878 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| 2nd Ditto | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Total... | | | | | | | | 216 |

Preliminary Notices were at once served upon any nuisances or contraventions of the Public Health Acts or Local Government Board's Orders being discovered, and revisits paid when the time given in such notices had expired ; in cases where these notices were not complied with, particulars were then reported to the Council and the usual Statutory Notices served.

Legal Proceedings.

During the past year legal proceedings have only been necessary in two cases, one being for the occupation of a new dwelling house in the parish of Godalming Rural, in contravention of the provisions of Sec. 6, Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, a fine of 40/- being imposed. The other case was in respect to a frequently occurring nuisance from gipsy encampments upon a dairy farm, in the parish of East Clandon. The defendants were convicted and fined the nominal penalty of 20/-, the Bench also made an order that the works required by the Council were to be carried out, with a result that the farm was cleared of these undesirable occupants.

Infectious Disease.

Disinfection was carried out after 70 cases of infectious disease, as compared with 64 during the previous twelve months. The variation in classification appears in the following table.

Disinfection was also carried out, by request, after two cases of Phthisis, and a Private School in the parish of Send and Ripley, and the Day Schools in the parish of Ockham :—

| | | | | 1904 | 1903 |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | 37 | 51 |
| Diphtheria | .. | ... | ... | 26 | 7 |
| Typhoid | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 3 |
| Smallpox | ... | ... | ... | Nil | 1 |
| | | | | — | — |
| | | | | 68 | 62 |
| | | | | — | — |
| Phthisis | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |

In all cases where infectious diseases were notified, I visited the premises, supplied disinfectants where necessary, and upon the removal of the case to the Isolation Hospital or recovery at home, the bedding, clothing, &c., were removed to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection, which is carried out by the Hospital Staff, and the rooms were fumigated either by means of sulphur or formaline. The houses were also inspected as to their sanitary condition and all practical means taken to prevent the spread of infection, and where necessary, notices were served for the interior of the rooms to be stripped, cleansed and limewashed. Where the water supply was suspected, a sample was taken for analysis.

Dwelling Houses Cleansed.

Thirty-four dwelling houses have been limewashed and cleansed under notice during the year, five of these were under a certificate from the Medical Officer of Health.

The requirements of one of these notices under the Medical Officer's certificate, relating to No. 11, Pirbright Cottages, was not complied with. I therefore had the work carried out at a cost of £4 9s., which will be recovered from the owner.

Overcrowding.

Nine dwelling houses were found to be overcrowded so as to be a nuisance injurious to the health of the inmates. In each case the nuisance was abated upon notice being served.

Accumulations.

Notices have been served for the removal of six accumulations of house refuse and manure. The requirements of each notice was carried out within the specified time.

Systematic Inspection.

I have commenced a systematic inspection of the whole of the "Licensed Houses" within your District, with a result that sanitary defects were found at nearly every house visited, and some were of a serious nature. Preliminary Notices have been served and complied with in each case. Up to the present, only one Statutory Notice has been required. I hope to complete this inspection at an early date.

Slaughter Houses.

There are ten Slaughter Houses now used in your District, all of which have been frequently visited, and, with one exception, were found satisfactory; and in this case a Preliminary Notice was served and steps taken to abate the nuisance.

Application was made to the Council in September for a licence under the Knackers' Acts, 1756 and 1844, to carry on a knacker's business at premises known as Rushcroft Farm, in the parish of Artington. The premises are detached, and in an isolated position with lands adjoining, and are suitable for the purpose, and the business of a knacker may safely be carried on. The licence was accordingly granted.

At the November meeting of the Council, I reported that slaughtering and preparing meat for human food had been carried on by two butchers at premises and under conditions which were both unsuitable and unsatisfactory. The butchers in question were joint occupiers of a proper slaughter house, and no valid reason could be given for killing and preparing meat for food under the conditions named.

The matter is now in the hands of the General Purposes Committee.

Factory and Workshops.

Workshops and workplaces have been visited at intervals during the year, and whenever defects or contraventions of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, were noted notices were served upon the person responsible to remedy the same. Further particulars have been supplied to the Medical Officer of Health for his report, as required by Sec. 132 of the above-mentioned Act.

Petroleum Acts.

Fourteen licences are now in force under the Petroleum Acts, 1871 and 1879, in the parishes of Albury, Artington, Compton, Godalming Rural, Ockham, Pirbright, Send and Ripley, Shere, Wisley and Worplesdon, being an increase of three over the preceding year. Visits were paid to each of the premises at intervals, and the requirements of the above-mentioned Acts were satisfactorily complied with.

Sanitation of Dwelling Houses.

The following is a summary of works carried out under the Public Health Acts during the year in accordance with Notices served :—

| | | |
|--|--------|------|
| Drains reconstructed and connected to sewers | ... | 30 |
| " " " cesspools | ... | 12 |
| Drains ventilated, repaired and trapped | ... .. | 26 |
| New cesspools constructed | ... .. | 7 |
| Cesspools abolished as defective and inefficient | ... .. | 5 |
| Additional earth closets provided | ... .. | 12 |
| Privies abolished and earth or water closets substituted | | 27 |
| Animals improperly kept and removed | .. ... | 8 |
| Roof guttering affixed to houses | ... .. | 5 |
| External walls coated and rendered impervious | ... .. | 8 |
| House floors repaired | ... .. | 13 |
| Fixed windows made to open | ... .. | 10 |
| Cellar floors cemented and made watertight | ... .. | 7 |
| Farm premises improperly occupied and closed | ... .. | 3 |
| Visits to premises | ... .. | 1160 |
| Notices unexpired, December 31st | ... .. | 9 |

Water Certificates.

The following table shows the parishes from which Water Certificates have been applied for, and granted under the provisions of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, the number of houses erected in each parish, and their source of supply:—

| Parishes. | Certificates Granted. | Number of Houses. | Woking Water Company | Guildford Corporation | Godalming Corporation | Hurtwood Company. | Private Works of Mr. Justice Bray. | Wanborough Spring. | Wells. |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--|-----------------------|--------|
| Artington | 1 | 2 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Compton | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Godalming Rural | 3 | 4 | .. | .. | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Horsley West | 3 | 3 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Ockham | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Pirbright | 2 | 3 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Send and Ripley | 4 | 10 | 10 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Shere | 4 | 6 | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 2 | .. | 1 |
| Stoke-next-Guildford | 14 | 28 | 28 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Wanborough | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| Worplesdon | 13 | 23 | 23 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Totals | 48 | 83 | 67 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 |

By the above table it will be seen that 83 new dwelling houses have been built in the District during the year. A substantial increase has taken place in the parish of Worplesdon ; 23 houses having been erected as against nine during 1903. The other parishes, as a whole, are about the same as in the preceding twelve months.

Water Supply.

Fifty-eight samples of water have been taken for analysis ; six were under applications for Water Certificates, and 52 from wells of suspicious quality. In all cases steps were taken to supply

each house with a wholesome supply, which, when possible, was from public mains, and in places where public supplies were not available steps were taken to obtain an improved supply by sinking new wells, &c., or resteining and improving the existing ones; in the latter cases the plans prepared by Mr. ANSTEE last year for the construction and improvement of wells were sent to both owners and builders when making alterations to wells, and the suggestions therein contained have been adopted with satisfactory results.

The following table will give the parishes from which sampsel were taken, the results of the analysis, and the source from which such houses were supplied. In eleven cases the notices to provide a supply of water were not complied with at the end of the year :—

| Parishes. | Number of Samples. | Houses Affected. | Suitable for Drinking. | Unsuitable for Drinking. | Number supplied after notice. | Supplied from Mains. | Supplied from Wells. | Samples for Certificates. |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Albury | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Artington..... | 4 | 8 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Clandon East | 1 | 3 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Godalming Rural | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. |
| Horsley, East | 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | .. |
| ,, West..... | 4 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | .. | 2 |
| Merrow..... | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Ockham | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 3 | .. | .. |
| Pirbright | 6 | 8 | .. | 6 | 18 | 18 | .. | .. |
| Send and Ripley..... | 8 | 15 | .. | 8 | 12 | 9 | 1 | .. |
| Shere..... | 4 | 8 | 2 | 2 | .. | 5 | .. | 2 |
| Stoke-next-Guildford | 1 | 2 | .. | 1 | 7 | 7 | .. | .. |
| Wanborough | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Worplesdon..... | 22 | 40 | 3 | 19 | 24 | 24 | .. | 1 |
| Totals | 58 | 99 | 16 | 42 | 70 | 68 | 2 | 6 |

Dairies.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops have been inspected during the year, and at irregular periods as occasion requires.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------|
| Number of dairymen on register Dec. 31st | ... | ... | 104 |
| Dairymen registered during the year | ... | ... | 13 |
| Transferred | ... | ... | 3 |
| Left the District, or ceased dairy work | ... | ... | 6 |
| Average number of cows kept in the District... | ... | ... | 1375 |
| Sheds repaired, channelled and permanently lighted | ... | ... | 8 |
| Drains disconnected and trapped in external air | ... | ... | 3 |
| Sheds limewashed and cleansed | ... | ... | 14 |
| Water laid on to Dairies | ... | ... | 3 |
| Notices served | ... | ... | 21 |
| Notices unexpired, Dec. 31st | ... | ... | 3 |

The number of Registered Dairymen has again increased in your District during the year ; the number on the Register Dec. 31st, 1903, was 97. The dairy carried on at Linnard's Farm, in the parish of Pirbright, has been visited many times through the year, owing to the unsatisfactory manner in which the premises are generally kept, and the result was a general clean-up after each visit.

With one exception, the whole of the Preliminary Notices were complied with. The exception related to the cleansing and storage of all milk vessels inside the cowshed. The case was accordingly reported to the Council, and I was instructed to serve a Notice under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885, for the provision of a separate cleansing and store-house for milk vessels. The requirements of this Notice were complied with.

A Preliminary Notice was served upon the Broadwater Dairy Company, Godalming Rural, respecting several drain inlets inside the sheds, and long lengths of untrapped drain opening direct inside the shed. The owner, however, objected to carry out the specified work, and appealed to the Board of Agriculture and the Local Government Board, with a request that, if possible,

he might be relieved from the requirements of the Council's Notice. The facts of the case were fully reported by me to the Council, and a copy of the report was forwarded to the Local Government Board. Eventually the work required by the Notice was carried out, and the sheds are now satisfactory.

Two dairies were opened and carried on in the district for some little time unregistered. Upon the matter being reported, the Council ordered the District to be placarded, calling the attention of Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk to the provisions of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885, relating to registration. No further cases of dairies being occupied unregistered have since been discovered.

The question of a periodical "Veterinary Inspection" of all dairy cows has been considered by the Council during the year, and the Council were of opinion that an inspection of this kind should be undertaken by the County Council, in order that it might be uniform throughout the County, and the attention of that body was accordingly drawn to the matter.

The Council, however, authorized me to call in the services of a Veterinary Surgeon in any particular case should such service be found desirable.

No case has at present been discovered in which the opinion of a Veterinary Surgeon was necessary.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

AMOS D. SHRIVES, ASSOC. SAN. INST.,

Sanitary Inspector.

